REPURIS

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Assistant Director for Operations

10 May 1955

Acting Chief, FBID

Progress Report for April 1955

OPERATIONS

- 1. FBID wire service to the office of the DD/I in the new Administration building commenced on 18 April. The wire carries only selected items of major importance which are suitable for the personal attention of the DD/I and the DCI. FBID wire editors maintain frequent contact with the Assistant to the DD/I (Intelligence) for guidance in selection of material to be transmitted. The latter has expressed approval of the service on several occasions.
- 2. Steps have been taken to maximize FBIS coverage of Indo China in accordance with the DD/I's instructions. The cruising monitor, Okinava Bureau, is scheduled to arrive in Saigon 10 May on temporary duty to conduct thorough cruising of local broadcasts and train additional native help, and the Bureau has been directed to develop maximum coverage without delay. FBIS facilities and personnel were unaffected by the recent disturbances in Saigon. The recent Bureau move from a street-level office in the USIA building to an upper floor of the former Embassy building proved beneficial from the point of view of security, power source, antennae space and communications. Improved reception permitted direct monitoring of a number of clandestine and dissident transmitters which appeared in the air in Saigon during April.
- 3. The Radio Propaganda Branch issued 14 special studies during April, nine of them in response to specific requests and three others contributory to National Intelligence. Estimates. On two occasions FBID sent advance copies of reports to OCI for use in preparing the DCI's weekly MSC briefing. The subjects treated most substantially in the April Radio Propaganda Reports were policy issues in the Malenkov-Khrushchev struggle, the treatment of atomic subjects in Chinese Communist broadcasts, and world reaction to the Bandung Conference.

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- 4. RQM/OIS was furnished FBID requirements for information on Soviet block propaganda operations in connection with its propaganda enalysis, and for intelligence concerning the structure end operations of the Communist propaganda machine, particularly with respect to press and radio.
- 5. A new Radio Liberation station in Taipei, Formosa, directed to the Soviet Far East, began tests in April, on which PBID was able to report immediate jamming. Although the FBID Hokkaido Buresu was initially requested by AMCOMLIB through the Senior Representative, Tokyo, to make spot checks and recordings of these broadcasts, this request was later withdrawn.
- 6. As a result of a recent frequency shift by MCRA, Peking, monitoring of this important transmission by the West Coast Buresu has been seriously impaired by interference from the U. S. Air Force amateur Military Affiliated Radio System (MARS). A formal request for a silent period or a frequency shift by MARS was made by the AD/O to the Director of Intelligence, USAF.
- 7. East Coast Bureaular experimental monitoring of AP and UP Moscow circuits has to date produced virtually negative results. The activity is being continued on the basis of additional frequency information which was recently acquired, however.
- 8. A report on atypical static conditions observed at the Mediterranean Bureau was transmitted to OSI, which is taking the matter to the AEC in Cambridge, Mass., for expert study. Although a high correlation with nuclear explosions is evident, a number of corollary factors appear not to be explained in these terms.
- 9. Intensive preliminary cruising was carried on for a month prior to the Bandung Afro-Asian Conference, as communication circuits were being tested and readied. This enabled FBID to provide comprehensive coverage of the entire proceedings of the Conference from direct sources.
- 10. Thorough coverage, special reporting, and technical guidance regarding the clandestine Radio Free Egypt and Radio Free Iraq were provided OCI, OSI, DD/P and ESA during April.

FACILITIES

11. In order to establish a clear basis for the future of FBIS radio monitoring in Germany, a memorandum was prepared for the Secretary, Intelligence Advisory Committee,

recommending that this activity be covered specifically in IAC Notice IAC-D-38/4, "Intelligence Aspects of the MATO Status of Forces Negotiations with the German Federal Republic." A mimilar problem arises in Austria, where, unlike Germany, no intelligence negotiations are contemplated. EE Division informally recommended that the best course in Austria would be to continue as an adjunct of State Department or USIA.

12. Chief, Broadcast Information Section, FBID, arrived in Fuerto Rico 3 May on TDY to survey military installations for a suitable FBIS Latin-America cruising post.

13. Okinawa construction:

- a. All houses under project DD/I-156-54 were accepted by the Okinava Bureau. Work on grounds, erosion control, and parking areas is in progress.
- b. The storage quonset building at Bolo Point is virtually completed.
- c. Installation of an underground connection to the island power system is 90 per cent complete.
- 14. Detailed planning is in progress for expansion of FBID into the second floor center section has house of Quarters Rye. The Broadcast Information Section end the Technical Information Section (reference library) will occupy the new head house space, and re-allocations will be made in wings H, I and J to provide more space for the Radio Propaganda Branch and the headquarters staff.

ADMINISTRATION

15. Fersonnel:

a. Bighty FBIS employees received notification of membership in the CIA Career Staff in the initial group.

b. A review of editorial recruiting indicates an insufficient number of applicants to fill anticipated vacancies. In order to exploit all possible sources, West Coast Bureau was requested to recruit editors locally in cooperation with the Agency field recruiting officer. Arrangements will be made for local testing of applicants, and for interviews by Chief, West Coast Bureau.

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| | d. Four employees entered on duty, two transferred, and one was separated during April. Classified on duty strength 30 April was eight under ceiling. Eleven applicants are in process. | 50X1-HUM |
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| | 17. In cooperation with RECD/OL a telephone survey was conducted on FBID's presently installed telephone service, and three lines were released to the Telephone Section. | |
| | 16. Chief, FBIS, has visited the West Coast, Tokyo, Hokksido Okinawa, Saigon, Mediterranean and Austrian Bureaus to date on hi current field inspection trip. | * * |
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| | Enclosures: | |
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Daily Average of Field Bureau Production, April 1955.
 Average computed on basis of 5-day week.

| FIELD BUREAU | HOURS MONITORED | wordage Film | TTEMS FILED | items Published |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Austria | 7 | 5,000* | 21* | 12* |
| East Coast | 107 | 18,700 | 107 | 50 |
| Germany | 22 | 12,000* | 6 8* | 56* |
| Holdca1do | 15 | 10,150 | 89 | 1021 |
| London | 267 | 68,000 | 180 | 102 |
| Mediterranean | 78 | 35,400 | 185 | 141 |
| Okinawa | 98 | 28,200 | 1.25 | 85 |
| Saigon | 24 | 10,200* | 31* | 16* |
| Tokyo | 26 | 9,200* | 28* | 17* |
| West Coast | <u> </u> | 34,000 | 172 | <u>-97</u> |
| Totals | 735 | 230,650 | 1,006 | 678 |

[&]quot;Includes press scrating.

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